THE ART OF LISTENING

by:
Roleta A. Garcia

Why do human beings have two ears but only one tongue? Why is this? Every time I am discussing my lesson and the students are talking instead of listening. My litany is, I asked them to imagine if God created us to have two mouths and one ear, how does we look like? They laughed and told we look like an alien. Yes. God created us two have two ears, probably that we have to listen twice as much we speak.

To learn, we just need to listen. What enters in our ears will register to our brain. The guiding principle in learning is listening well. It is the principle that’s been lost, most in our digital time or the genre of millennials: where no one seems to have the time to listen. And as if we have completely lost our ability to listen, instead we kept on clicking on clicking our gadgets and the students are talking and talking.

What differentiates us from animals is the fact that we can listen to other people’s dreams, fears, joys, sorrows, desires and defeats and in turn they can listen too. A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but after a while; he gets to know something (Wilzon Mizer).

Effective listening is an active and purposeful activity. Listening maybe marginal which you hear but not giving attention. Attentive listening that involves the interpretation of
information and reception. Appreciative listening is listening for pleasure and entertainment to escape for relaxation and appreciation. Critical listening is in order to evaluate the validity and usefulness of the speakers’ ideas and judgment. The last one is choosing what topic you just wanted to listen to is selective listening.

Some of the students employ the selective listening when they are not interested in the topic. They chose only the topic they wanted to hear. Sometimes, if the topic caught their attention you tick their imagination. They are very attentive listening to the lesson, so information transmits in the brain and learning comes. In our modern days of teaching listening to music, while doing the activity, is one way to relax. It has a calming effect on the mind. They can think actively, others have the critical thinking that evaluates the validity and usefulness of ideas of they listened to. The last is the marginal listening. It is simply like the Legend of Pineapple, the famous Nagitengang Kawali. When someone is calling, he didn’t answer even though he hears it.

Long ago, our forefathers just listen to the sounds of nature and they can predict about the weather or if lies a danger that lurks. Listening is very important since our forefathers until this era of millennial.

As I’ve read, we are species of Homo – narrans, the storytelling person. We can talk and talk. The art of listening will continue as long as we value the functions of our two ears.
References:

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Familiar Quotation